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AND TIMES HERALD

Town Topics

Gentlemen Prefer —To Snub Chemise

By Marie McNair

IF YOU'D LIKE to know what men think of chemises, lampshade skirts and harem-styled dresses, you should have been at the Italian Embassy yesterday afternoon. They were most articulate, as a dozen models paraded in the embassy drawing room at the cocktail party given by Ambassador and Signora Brosio.

Mrs. McNair

The party was a prelude to the Italian Festival of Fashion being put on this afternoon at 4:30 at the Shoreham when Italy's top designers on a cross-country tour will show their latest costumes for the benefit of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Today the dresses will all be different. But yesterday as diplomats and dowagers pondered, they all agreed, finally on the draped harem skirt, thin black silk with deep scoop neckline, no sleeves cocktail dress; the oyster-white taffeta evening dress finely tucked to the knees then pouffed to the ankle; and the green and red print sari-draped cocktail frock which resembled a bat when the arms were outstretched.

The Nicaraguan Ambassador, Guillermo Sevilla-Sacasa liked best the green and red print; others were nostalgic about the Roaring Twenties number—a pale pink sheath with enormous taffeta bow at the neckline and the whole dripping in crystal fringe.

Among committee members for today's fashion festival who were there yesterday were Mrs. Charles P. Cabell, Mrs. Myron Cowen, Mrs. Orme Wilson, Mrs. Roderic O'Connor, Mrs. James van Alen, Mrs. Nicholas de Rochefort, Mrs. Harold Coolidge, Mrs. Harry Davidow, Mrs. Ralph Becker and Mrs. William P. McCracken and her daughter, Nell.

Only Mrs. Cabell, Mrs. Coolidge and Mrs. Van Alen's husbands were ab-

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